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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF  
CLUTTON

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# ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Senior Public Health Inspector

For the Year 1960.





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THE ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1960

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1960.

I am glad to report that during the past year the health of your District has been good. We have again had no epidemic of serious Infectious Disease, and the total number of notifications is the lowest I can ever remember.

The Birth Rate has risen and the Death Rate dropped. Actual figures are contained in Vital Statistics later in the report.

Last year I again mentioned a local nuisance - flies at Bishop Sutton !!! I am glad to say I have not heard much about it during this year although there have been some troublesome patches.

During the year the Paulton Sewerage Scheme was completed with immediate local improvement. There should be no difficulty in the future in the way of development both by Local Authority or Private Enterprise.

Also on 1st April the Council's water undertaking was taken over 'lock stock and barrel' by the Bristol Waterworks Company - so far without apparent ill effect. I feel sure we are in good hands and shall have sympathetic Water Lords to deal with in the future. Your Public Health Inspector and his staff have been relieved of an onerous task.

Sewerage schemes at the moment loom large in the offing. It is hoped that the Bishop Sutton-Chew Magna Scheme will start active work in the near future.

During the year your Inspector and I visited a number of Parishes and drew up a report in which we tried to place some in order of need. You will find some details in my Report, and you may remember the actual report being presented by the Public Health Committee.

I would like to remind you that we are morally bound to give very urgent priority to Chew Stoke.

SECTION A

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

R.V. Brew, M.B., B.S., Medical Officer of Health (Part Time)  
F.C. Powell, Senior Public Health Inspector (Full Time)  
W. Kerley, Additional Public Health Inspector (Full Time)  
S.D. Crowle, Additional Public Health Inspector (Full Time)

COMMITTEES CONCERNED WITH MATTERS OF PUBLIC HEALTH

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

HOUSING COMMITTEE

HOUSE LETTING COMMITTEE

SECTION B

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	<u>Notifications Received during the year</u>
Measles	9
Scarletina (Scarlet Fever)	13
Whooping Cough	10
Acute Primary Pneumonia & ) Acute Influenzal Pneumonia)	5
Erysipelas	2
Food Poisoning	5
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	1
(Non Respiratory)	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-

### Preventive Medicine

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Antitetanus immunization injections are provided free by the County Council and can be obtained from the Family Doctor (or from the School Medical Officers on occasions). No charge is made for the injections.

Vaccination against Small Pox, also provided and paid for by the County Council, should be done in the first six months of a Baby life and renewed at least once in the teen age, or on going abroad. Both Primary and Revaccination can be done at any age.

### Poliomyelitis (Vaccination)

Is available to all under the age of 40 years free of charge and should be done by the General Practitioner.

To those over 40 the vaccine can be prescribed for them by the General Practitioner, obtained from the Chemist on payment of 2/-, and injected by the Doctor free of charge.

In my opinion it is essential that all under 60 years should be so protected.

Two doses are given at three-week intervals and a third or booster dose seven months later or thereabouts.

None of these services are used as they should be.

Following are some statistics furnished by the County Medical Officer of Health which I commend you to digest, bearing in mind that we have a population of 18,130 and there were 290 births during the year.

## Diphtheria

	<u>June</u>	<u>December</u>	<u>Total</u>
Primary Injection -			
Full Course to:	159	97	256
Reinforcing Injections to:	149	209	358

Number of Children at  
31.12.60 who had completed  
a course of Immunization  
(Primary or Booster) within  
the last five years. (Any  
time since 1st January, 1956):

Total Under 15 yrs.

1,757 = 6th out of  
16 R.D's.

## Whooping Cough

Injections during year	207
------------------------	-----

## Small Pox Vaccinations

Primary 95  
Revaccination 1 = 9th out of 16 R.D's.

## Poliomyelitis Vaccinations

Children Born 1943 to 1960       $\frac{1960}{290} \cdot \frac{1959}{2,049} = 6\text{th out of } 16 \text{ R.D's.}$

Young persons born  
    1933 to 1942         132   822   = 6th out of  
  16 R.D.'s.

Persons under 40 yrs. of age 296  
Persons over 40 yrs. of age = 8th out of 16 R.D's.

and priority  
groups: 10 99

[illegible]

## SECTION C

### NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT 1946 LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES UNDER PART III CARE OF EXPECTANT MOTHERS AND NURSING MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Is controlled by the County Council, the work is done through the patient's own Doctor and the District Nurse, Antenatal work is carried out by them or at ante-natal clinics generally situated in the local available hospitals. Patients are encouraged to report to one or both in the early months, in order that these preliminary examinations can be executed and conducted at regular intervals.

Patients can have their babies either at home or in a hospital, in the former case being attended by their own nurse and doctor. They remain under their care for six weeks, or more if needed.

In many areas there are Welfare Clinics to continue the health supervision of the child until it is five years of age and starts school. In addition, the mother and child are visited at intervals by their District Nurse who can summon the Doctor when needed. The Scheme works extremely well and there has been no need for modifications since its inception in 1948.

HEALTH VISITING is in the hands of the County Council and is done by Nurses on the County Staff. They appear to visit all cases of Tuberculosis and cases of bad housing conditions with or without over-crowding. The result is frequently a letter to your Medical Officer of Health demanding a Council House for the householder.

HOME NURSING SERVICE - conducted by the District Nurses. No special staff in this area.

AMBULANCE SERVICE including the provision of free transport for those unable to travel by public transport. The service is excellent and a great boon to the sick and injured. The Staffs are unfailingly prompt and helpful and a special word of thanks is due to them for the excellent work they do and the way they do it.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE. In this District it is run by the W.V.S. It is of great assistance to the sick and aged sick. Unfortunately the supply of Helps is not large; I wish it could be augmented, for the work they do is badly needed and greatly appreciated.

INSTITUTIONAL ACCOMMODATION FOR THE AGED SICK. I am glad to report that during the past year the conditions appear to have improved. I personally have had better luck in obtaining admission for my own cases. I know of no additional accommodation being available and I wonder if another year of more illness will resuscitate the bed shortage once again.



## SECTION D

### HOUSING

For full details of the work in this connection I refer you to the report of your Inspector.

There would appear to be still a demand for more Council Houses. No sooner is there a rumour that one is to be vacated than I become inundated with letters and personal visits from persons thinking that they should be immediately granted the tenancy. I make no promise but I do submit all letters to your Clerk for filing, and invariably advise a visit to All the District Councillors of the Parish concerned. I find the District Councillors seem to have hit on the same idea and refer the people to ME !!!

Your Inspectors have put in a lot of work on Slum Clearance and with them I have visited a number of derelict or near derelict properties before making Representations to your Council for Closure Notices to be made etc. It is an extremely difficult problem but your District still contains a lot of houses which should and could be dealt with under this heading.

## SECTION E

### FOOD POISONING

Five cases were notified during the year but four were not confirmed by the Bacteriologist. It was of the Salmonella type and its origin could not be traced.



## SECTION F

### MILK

One of the major industries of the Clutton R.D.C. There has been a fall in the total National production but I should doubt if this applies to our area. Somerset is now a Clean County which means that all known Tuberculosis Cattle have been eradicated and all milk is now from T.T. Attested Cattle. All milk offered for public sale must now be either T.T. Pasteurised or Sterilized.

## SECTION G

### SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

Your Inspectors have again dealt with their duties in this connection in an efficient manner and very few carcasses remained uninspected. The Control of slaughtering hours would eliminate this small number entirely.

From your Inspector's Report you will notice that a considerable amount of work has been put in advising the slaughterhouse occupiers of what works will be necessary to their premises to enable them to comply with new legislation. This work was advanced during the year by the preparation of plans and the completion of reports required by the Minister.

A number of problems in this connection remain to be overcome, but with the co-operation of all concerned I think that the ultimate standard of slaughterhouses and meat inspection in the area will be extremely good.

## SECTION H

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

Area in acres: 43,258

Registrar General's estimate of resident population: 18,130

Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Books: 5,712

Rateable Value and sum represented by a Penny Rate: £169,050  
and £675 respectively.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS  
FOR THE YEAR

Estimated Mid Year Population	...	...	...	...	18,130
Live Births:	...	...	...	...	290
Rate per 1,000 Population	...	...	...	...	16.03
Illegitimate Live Births (per cent. of total live births)	...	...	...	...	1.72
Stillbirths:	...	...	...	...	8
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	26.84
Total Live and Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	298
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	...	...	...	...	7
Infant Mortality Rates:					
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	...	...	...	...	24.82
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	24.82
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	Nil
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	...	...	17.24
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	...	...	17.24
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths)	...	...	...	...	43.62
Maternal Mortality (including abortion):					
Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	...	Nil

# DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

<u>Cause</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach	3	-	3
" " of Lungs	5	1	6
" " of Breast	-	4	4
Other Malignant Neoplasms	10	12	22
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	15	20	35
Coronary Disease and Angina	18	13	31
Hypertension with Heart Disease	3	2	5
Other Heart Diseases	16	21	37
Other Circulatory Diseases	2	5	7
Influenza	-	1	1
Pneumonia	4	3	7
Bronchitis	6	1	7
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	8	3	11
Gastritis, Enteritis & Diarrhoea	-	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
Congenital Malformations	1	1	2
Other Defined or Ill-defined Diseases	8	8	16
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	-	2
All Other Accidents	1	1	2
Suicide	1	-	1
Leukaemia	1	-	1
Diabetis	-	1	1
Total ... ..	105	98	203

Death Rate = 11.19 per 1,000 population

I would like to draw your attention to the following facts:-

Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	No Deaths
Notifiable Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	No Deaths
Pregnancy, Childbirth & Abortion	...	...	...	...	No Deaths

In my opinion this must be due to improvements in:-

Better housing conditions,  
Better Health Administration,  
Better Hospital and Medical Services: not forgetting the General Practitioner who after all has to make the first diagnosis and start the right treatment.

The National Health Insurance Services which at Terrible Cost provide everything a patient can need for a nominal charge.

Think of the days before 1948 when many people could not afford glasses, false teeth or the lowly truss - and how did they get to the Hospitals, Clinics, etc. before these days of free transport.

And lastly we must pay tribute to the Research Teams who discovered some of the marvellous modern drugs which undoubtedly save many lives and reduce the time taken to effect many cures.

In Housing there still remains much to be done. We need a lot of new houses and there is a great deal of Slum Clearance work still to be done. It is a long and tedious job but we have made some headway.

Your Public Health Staff, to whom I am always grateful for their kind co-operation, have worked hard and, I think, harmoniously under the guidance of Mr. Powell. They are getting results all the time even though the results are not always apparent.

We are all grateful to Mr. Burdge and his Staff for their kindly help.

If I may say so, after many years of experience, I have a feeling that the Clutton R.D.C. is definitely getting on top of its job. Certainly everybody tries very hard.!!!

I have the honour to remain,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

RICHARD V. BREW, M.B., B.S.,

Medical Officer of Health

# REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1960

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Fourth Annual Report and Summary of the Sanitary Conditions of the area.

The work carried out in the Health Department during the year ended 31st December, 1960, is detailed under the various subject headings which follow.

## WATER SUPPLY

### (1) General Position

The control of the Council's water undertaking passed to the Bristol Waterworks Company on 1st April, 1960, and seven employees were transferred to that Authority on that date together with all plant and equipment. Whilst in many ways it is to be regretted that the control of such undertakings is passing from local hands, in this particular case some consolation can be derived from the fact that at the time of transfer and after years of endeavour, the Council had largely succeeded in solving its water supply problems.

During the period January 1st to March 31st, 1960, the following work was carried out on the distribution and maintenance side.

New domestic tappings	34
New metered supplies	19
Burst mains repaired	6
Services renewed	6
Meters changed	5
Service leaks located and/or repaired	6

## (2) Water Sampling

Sampling details for the year are as follows:-

SOURCE	Raw Water				Treated after going into supply			
	Bacteriological		Chemical		Bacteriological		Chemical	
	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
Main Supplies	-	-	-	-	9	-	2	-
Spring Supplies	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Well Supplies	-	3	-	12	-	-	-	-

As a result of the above sampling five private supplies were abandoned in favour of mains supplies.

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Activity in this aspect of your functions continues to expand, and is likely to continue to do so to keep pace with potential development within the district.

The new Paulton works and sewers became operative in the spring of 1960 and this resulted in a dramatic and immediate improvement in the condition of the "stinking brook" as it was so often called. For the first time it became necessary to employ a full-time attendant for a single sewage works. The works have given satisfactory results to date, although it may be necessary later on to trace and eliminate undesirable infiltration into the old drains and sewers which had to be connected to the new system.

The other works have again been regularly maintained with the mobile gang. As in previous years the larger works have generally given satisfactory results but not many of the smaller estate plants. Every effort was made to ensure frequent visits to all plants, but this entails considerable mileage and travelling time for your van and gang. The cesspool emptying contract worked fairly well but with the cost rising every year the time may well be near when the Council should consider purchasing a tanker of its own.



During the year and following a report from your Medical Officer and myself, the following priorities were established for new sewage disposal schemes, many of which are urgently needed.

1. Chew Magna-Bishop Sutton Scheme
2. Timsbury, Lippiatt Lane Scheme
3. Chilcompton and High Littleton Schemes
4. Timsbury Trunk Sewer
5. Chew Stoke
6. Farrington Gurney
7. Pensford
8. Ston Easton
9. Cameley (Temple Cloud Village)
10. West Harptree
11. East Harptree
12. Clutton (Second Stage)
13. Chilcompton (Second Stage)
14. Norton Malreward and Lower Stanton, Litton and Chelwood

Final approval for the Bishop Sutton-Chew Magna Scheme was still awaited at the end of the year.

#### BUILDING BYELAWS AND TOWN PLANNING STATISTICS

The number of plans received for consideration by the Council has again increased and from a practical aspect Building Byelaw inspections continue to take up a considerable part of your Inspectors' time.

Comparable figures with 1959 follow:-

New Dwellings	Completed		Under Construction		Plans Approved	
	1959	1960	1959	1960	1959	1960
R.D.C.	28	6	72	122	96	52
Private Enterprise	53	38	20	35	43	140

For the record 446 plans were dealt with by the department during the year arising from which some 971 inspections and visits were made compared with 400 plans and 687 visits during 1959.

The passing of the Town and Country Planning Act 1959 with its complicated certificate procedure caused considerable extra work to be placed on the department and much time is spent in advising and securing the proper completion of the various forms involved.



TABLE OF PLANS RECEIVED AND DEALT WITH UNDER THE BYELAWS AND TOWN  
AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS AND ORDERS

		1959 Plans Bldgs.		1960 Plans Bldgs.	
1.	Council Houses (including Outline)	3	96	2	52
2.	Private House applications	112	43	148	140
3.	Alterations and additions to houses	103	108	114	117
4.	Conversions to houses	9	7	6	7
5.	Farm Buildings	27	26	19	19
6.	Factories, including alterations and additions	15	9	11	11
7.	Temporary Buildings and Moveable Dwellings	12	11	13	13
8.	Licensed Premises, including alterations and additions	3	3	1	1
9.	Shops, including additions and alterations	6	5	6	6
10.	Petrol Stations and Garages	13	8	10	10
11.	Local Authority (Bus Shelters, Sewers, Water Schemes, Schools, etc.)	5	5	9	13
12.	Statutory Undertakings (Electricity Boards, etc.)	15	15	33	33
13.	Private Garages	64	97	53	62
14.	Advertisements	7	7	13	13
15.	Public Halls & Buildings alterations and additions	6	4	8	8
TOTAL ... ..		400	444	446	505

# SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACTS

1899 - 1923

(as amended)

Applications for loans again showed an increase. During the year 24 surveys and valuations were carried out by your Officers. 18 advances were made, 2 refused and 4 withdrawn. The total sum advanced was £22,186, an increase of over £4,000 over 1959.

In addition 10 surveys and 9 advances were made and 1 refused for the total sum of £2,356 in respect of applications for loans for the repair of dwellinghouses under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act 1958.

## HOUSING

### IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

A steady increase in the number of applications for both Standard and Discretionary grants may be reported, viz.

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1960</u>
<u>Standard Grants</u>		
Applications ... ..	25	33
Dwellings involved: Owner/Occupied	16	25
Tenanted	11	8
Applications approved ... ..	23	31
withdrawn or refused	2	2
<u>Discretionary Grants</u>		
Applications ... ..	26	39
Dwellings involved: Owner/Occupied	22	24
Tenanted	4	17
Applications approved ... ..	24	39
withdrawn or refused	2	-

Providing that the house is reasonably fit for human habitation the scheme for standard grants is much more easily applied than that for discretionary grants in that very often the work can go ahead without the preparation of detailed plans and specifications, and the grants are paid on the production of a Builder's account.

The improvement works completed during the year were generally of a good standard and again reflected credit on those builders and architects concerned with the reconstruction of these old properties.

The financial details of these grants are as follows:-

	<u>Standard</u>	<u>Discretionary</u>
1. Number of dwellings in respect of which improvement grants have been approved	31	41
2. Number of such dwellings owner/occupied	24	24
3. Number of such dwellings occupied by tenants	7	17
4. Total of approved grants	£3,558	£11,445
5. Average grant per dwelling	£114	£279
6. Total expenditure to be incurred by owners in respect of repairs, improvements and professional fees	£4,073	£21,876
7. Average expenditure to be incurred by owners (as compared with average grant of £114 Standard and £279 Discretionary per dwelling)	£131	£533

It should be noted that as is the case generally throughout the Country the number of applications for improvement grants from owner/occupiers greatly exceeds those from the owners of tenanted houses. This is unfortunate because it does mean that the raising of the standard of many houses in the district is likely to take many more years to accomplish.

The percentage of tenanted houses which were the subject of applications increased slightly from 29% to 33%.

# HOUSING

## HOUSING ACT 1957 - UNFIT HOUSES

No statutory action was taken during the year under Section 9 of the Housing Act to secure the repair of houses repairable at a reasonable cost.

Progress in the slum clearance programme to deal with houses not repairable at a reasonable expense again proceeded slowly, but the programmes at Farmborough and Paulton in hand at the end of the year, should in 1961 see a big step forward towards overcoming this problem.

Figures given below, however, indicate that when the total picture is examined the programme as planned in 1955 is still somewhat ahead of schedule, but the figures revealed below are disappointing.

Statistical information on the situation at 31.12.60 is as follows:-

1.	Total number of permanent dwellings in the district	...	...	...	...	5,915
2.	Total number of permanent dwellings owned by the Council (excluding 40 prefabs)	...	...	...	...	1,239
3.	Estimated number of houses as at August 1955 unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	583
4.	Approximate number of (3) above still occupied	...	...	...	...	377
5.	Approximate number of families in (4) above	...	...	...	...	388
6.	Approximate number of (4) above in confirmed clearance orders and still occupied at 31.12.60	...	...	...	...	239
7.	Number demolished to 31.12.60	...	...	...	...	81
8.	Number of houses made fit during the year	...	...	...	...	53
9.	Number of applications for Council Houses at 31.12.60 (subject to revision)	...	...	...	...	439

# RODENT CONTROL AND VERMIN INFESTATION

There is nothing outstanding to report in the year's activities regarding Rodent Control, although the steady influx of complaints gave the operator little time for a parish to parish survey. Infestations generally were, however, of minor proportions and satisfactory results have been achieved in routine treatment. The sewage works and refuse tips have again been regularly surveyed and treated and public sewers in six parishes were test baited and treated where this was found necessary.

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	
	L.A.	Dwelling houses	Business premises	Farms	TOTAL
<hr/>					
Number of properties inspected as a result of:-					
(a) Notifications	18	240	32	24	314
(b) Surveys	43	688	43	65	839
Number of Inspections	136	1307	171	154	1768
Number of properties found to be infested:					
RATS	Major infestation	1	-	5	11
	Minor "	48	301	53	51
					453
MICE	Major "	-	1	-	-
	Minor "	1	41	8	8
					58
Number of infested properties treated	20	144	22	25	211
Number of treatments	49	278	63	43	433
Number of Block Controls	-	23	-	-	23
(for 91 Premises)					

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS  
ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES

Statutory Notices:	Served	...	...	...	Nil
	Abated	...	...	...	Nil

Informal Notices:	Served	...	...	...	168
	Abated	...	...	...	85

The outstanding notices are followed up as time allows.

Total number of inspections in connection with the above during the year	...	...	363
--	-----	-----	-----

Details of inspections are as follows:-

Houses, complaints and repair	...	...	122
Animals or fowls kept in such a state as to be a nuisance	...	...	21
Accumulation of filth or refuse	...	...	9
Ponds, ditches or watercourses	...	...	78
Defective dustbins or closet pans	...	...	-
Rodent Control (excluding operator)		...	6
House drainage complaints	...	...	127

INFECTIOUS DISEASES  
ENQUIRIES AND DISINFECTIONS

Investigations were made after cases of infectious diseases as notified in the Medical Officer of Health's Report, and disinfections were carried out where necessary.

Five cases of food poisoning were notified, although four of these were not confirmed.



## MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

### CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT 1960

In December 1960 the Council adopted comprehensive conditions governing

- (1) permanent residential sites
- (2) holiday caravan sites, and
- (3) single caravan residential sites.

Generally, however, no large influx of caravans into the district was noted, although there is undoubtedly a need for a small residential site to which caravans can be directed.

The number of caravan sites remained at one for seasonal occupation only and twelve licences were in force for single moveable dwellings. 29 inspections of sites were made but no nuisances were reported.

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The weekly refuse collection scheme carried out by contract with the British Transport Commission has proceeded satisfactorily during the year with very few complaints, and these generally resulting from vehicle breakdowns which were unavoidable.

A further 14 new litter baskets were erected within the district mainly at points frequented by holiday travellers, in addition to replacements. Unfortunately many of the baskets have had to be taken down and repaired or replaced due to unnecessary damage to them.

The refuse tip at Goosard's Bridge, Paulton, was continued in use during the year as the sole disposal point, but again trouble was experienced from flies and smells from burning refuse caused by the failure of the British Road Services to provide covering material and to consolidate the tip.

At certain times of the year an abundance of paper and little or no ash emphasised the need for covering material and means to spread it.



## SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

The number of licensed slaughterhouses is as in previous years.

Bishop Sutton	...	...	One (wholesale)
Chew Magna	...	...	Two (for own use only)
High Littleton	...	...	One (for own use only)
Norton Malreward	...	...	One (wholesale)
Temple Cloud	...	...	One (for own use only)
West Harptree	...	...	One (for own use only)

The report required by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food under the Slaughterhouse Reports Appointed Day Order 1959 was prepared and forwarded during the year with a recommendation that October 1st, 1961, should be the appointed day when the Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations 1958 become fully operative. The report was later approved by the Ministry and the date accepted. Consultations held with the various occupiers resulted in the preparation of plans for the reconstruction of six and the likely abandonment of one slaughterhouse.

The number of animals slaughtered during the year was 24,946 of which 99.4% were inspected. Co-operation between the slaughterhouse occupiers and your inspectors was again good, but the standard of hygiene left something to be desired in one or two premises. It is to be hoped that with the completion of reconstruction works to the required standard, the incentive will be there to maintain a higher standard.

Although the number of animals slaughtered in 1960 went up by 1,347 the amount of meat condemned went down by approximately 7 tons. A good sign!

During the year 1,555 inspections were made to slaughterhouses within the district.

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part during the year

	Beasts	Heifers	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	527	1740	2637	698	13,572	5772
Number inspected	527	1740	2637	698	13,362	5756
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:-						
Whole carcases condemned	1	6	66	36	148	54
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	115	414	1218	2	1,009	322
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	22.01%	24.13%	48.69%	5.4%	8.65%	6.54%
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcases condemned	-	1	1	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	1	12	-	-	88
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	.18%	.12%	0.49%	-	-	1.52%
Cysticercosis:-						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	7	19	8	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	7	19	8	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Weight of meat condemned	17 tons.	1 cwt.		14cwts. 62 lbs.	3tons 13cwts. 39 lbs.	2tons 48 lbs.

CANNED FOODS

The following canned foods were condemned during the year:-

156 lbs. 1 oz.	Meat
4 lbs. 5 ozs.	Fish
75 lbs. 10 ozs.	Fruit & Vegetables
7 lbs. 2 ozs.	Milk

## INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES

Our records indicate that premises within the district are made up according to the following table:-

(1)	Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	9
(2)	Butchers Shops	...	...	...	...	18
(3)	Fish & Chip Shops	...	...	...	...	5
(4)	Milk (a) No. of Registered Distributors	...				12
	(b) No. of Registered Dairy Premises other than Dairy Farms	...				3
	(c) No. of Licensed Dealers in Designated Milk	...	...	...	...	17
(5)	Number of premises registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act 1955	...	...			84
(6)	Shops selling food	...	...	...	...	94
(7)	Cafes and Guest Houses	...	...	...		17
(8)	Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	54
(9)	Shops selling Ice Cream	...	...	...		83

Some 60 visits were made by your Inspectors to various premises. Advice was given to the occupiers whenever necessary and informal notices served as the occasion demanded. There is still room for considerable improvement here and a regular and systematic inspection of such premises is necessary, but present commitments in the meat inspection and other fields do not allow this to be carried out.

Once again I have to report that no ice-cream is being manufactured in the district, although the number of premises licenced to sell this commodity increased by 4 to 83.

Two samples of milk were taken during the year and both found to be satisfactory.

## DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT 1950

Six visits to inspect four licensed swill boiling plants were made during the year and action taken to secure improvements in respect of two plants.

No new plants were licensed during the year.

# AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT 1956

Time and staff were not available for any inspections to be made under this Act.

## FACTORIES ACT 1937

Number of factories in the District ... .. 67

Number of inspections carried out under the provision of the above Act during the year 10

The statistical information is as follows:-

	<u>Number on Register</u>	<u>Inspections</u>
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are enforced by the Local Authority	3	3
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	64	7

Defects found:-

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Referred by H.M. Inspector</u>
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (b) unsuitable or defective	1	1	1

Outworkers:-

Number of outworkers in August List			
Section 110 (1) (c) - Wearing Apparel (Making)	...	...	8

## PETROLEUM ACTS AND ORDERS

On 31st December, 1960, the amount of petrol stored under licence within the district had decreased slightly to 96,750 gallons in 71 installations, as follows:-

33 Retail Filling Stations

38 Private Installations

The amount of carbide stored under licence had decreased to 10,000 lbs.

During the year your Public Health Inspectors attended two meetings at Fire Brigade Headquarters, Taunton, held to discuss ways and means of implementing the Home Office Model Code in respect of petroleum installations.

The implementation of the code of conditions adopted by the Council from the 1st April, 1960, resulted in considerable activity by your officers in this field. 205 inspections and visits to installations were made and 39 tank tests supervised. These tests resulted in 12 tanks being failed as unsatisfactory and leaking. One leaking tank in a store between two houses and one beneath an office building were abandoned and filled in in sand and/or concrete. These results alone indicate the value of this work, and by the end of the year a considerable all round improvement in the standard of pumps, electrical gear and switches, tank ventilation and protection, was apparent.

### CONCLUSION

Once again I would like to thank Dr. Brew for his support and advice, Mr. Burdge and his Staff for their continued co-operation, and the members of the office and outside staff for their conscientious work throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

F.C. POWELL







